AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously submitted) A method for drilling or intervening in a well passing through a porous, permeable formation in which a water-based well fluid is circulating in said well, comprising adding to said fluid a maximum of 1 g/l of a composition comprising at least one compound selected from the group consisting of partial esters of at least one polyol selected from the group consisting of glycerol and polyglycerols with at least one C8 - C10 fatty acid, with the chain lengths of the acid and polyol parts being chosen such that said partial ester has sufficient dispersion in water, compatibility with any other ingredients, does not form an emulsion with the reservoir oil, and adsorbs sufficiently on the porous formation.

2 - 4. (canceled)

5. (Previously submitted) A method according to Claim 1, wherein said polyglycerol has between 24 and 30% glycerol, between 28 and 34% diglycerol, between 20 and 26% triglycerol, between 9 and 15% tetraglycerol, and between 4 and 10% pentaglycerol.

6. (canceled)

7. (Previously submitted) A water-based well fluid for use in a method according to claim 1 comprising a maximum of 1 g/l of a composition comprising at least one compound selected from the group consisting of the partial esters of at least one polyol selected from the group consisting of glycerol and polyglycerols with

at least one C8 - C10 fatty acid, with the chain lengths of the acid and polyol parts being chosen such that said partial ester has sufficient dispersion in water, compatibility with any other ingredients, does not form an emulsion with the reservoir oil, and adsorbs sufficiently on the porous formation.

8 - 9. (canceled)

10. (Previously submitted) A fluid according to Claim 7, wherein said polyglycerol has between 24 and 30% glycerol, between 28 and 34% diglycerol, between 20 and 26% triglycerol, between 9 and 15% tetraglycerol and between 4 and 10% pentaglycerol.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously submitted) A method according to Claim 5, wherein said polyglycerol has 27% glycerol, 31% diglycerol, 23% triglycerol, 12% tetraglycerol and 7% pentaglycerol.

13. (Previously submitted) A fluid according to Claim 7 further comprising at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of filtrate reducers, viscosifiers and heavy mineral suspensoids.

14. (Currently amended) A water-based well fluid to be circulated in a well passing through a porous, permeable formation, said water-based comprising a

maximum of 1 g/l of a composition comprising at least one compound selected from the group consisting of the partial esters of polyols with ~~C6-C16~~ C6 - C12 fatty acids, wherein said polyols are selected from the group consisting of diols, triols, polyols with more than 3 hydroxy functions, and mixed polyalkoxide derivatives thereof, and chain lengths of the acid and polyol parts being selected such that said partial ester has sufficient dispersion in water and compatibility with any other ingredients, does not form an emulsion with reservoir oil and adsorbs sufficiently on the porous formation.

15. (Previously submitted) A fluid according to Claim 7, wherein said polyglycerol has 27% glycerol, 31% diglycerol, 23% triglycerol, 12% tetraglycerol and 7% pentaglycerol.--